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**Woman Charged With Attacking Tourist
at Santa Monica Coffee House**

A 39-year-old woman was charged today with attacking a female tourist sitting with her family at a coffee shop in Santa Monica, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Sara Christine Rizo (dob 2/24/76) of Redondo Beach faces one felony count each of criminal threats and battery with serious bodily injury in case SA090638.

Rizo pleaded not guilty to the charges today and is scheduled to return on July 1 to Department W71 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch.

On June 9, the victim and her family were sitting in the coffee house when Rizo allegedly began pulling the woman by the hair without provocation, prosecutors said. The defendant also is accused of threatening to kill the victim as she threw her on the ground, prosecutors added.

The recommended bail for Rizo is \$80,000.

She faces a possible maximum sentence of four years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Santa Monica Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.